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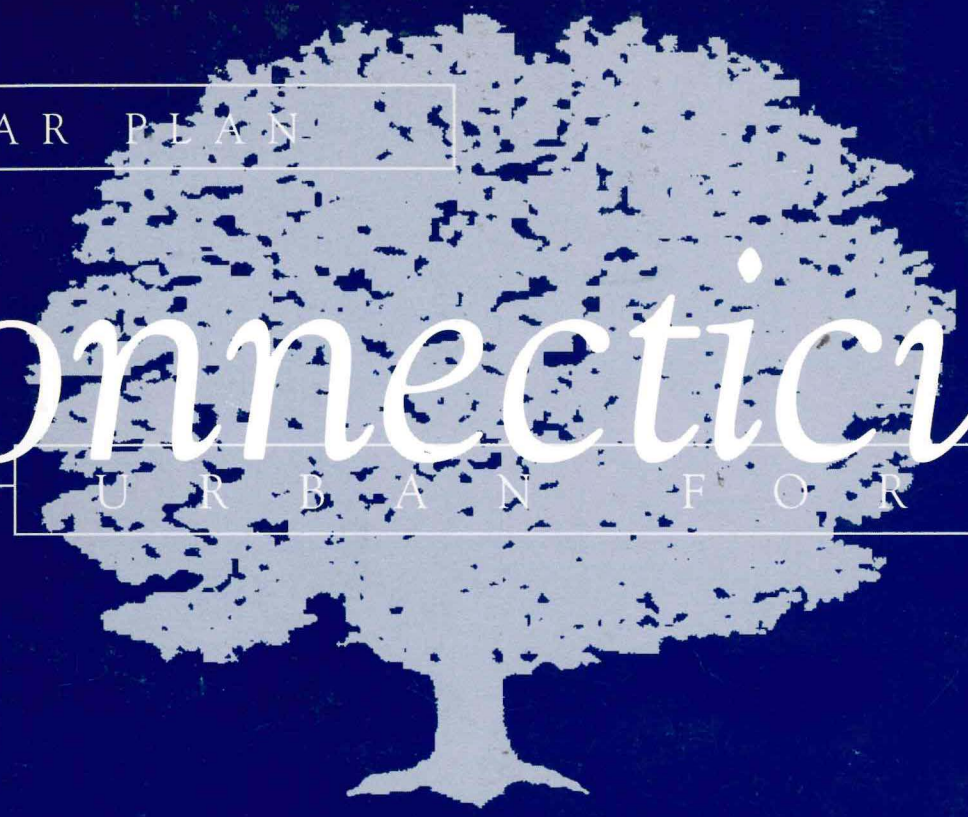

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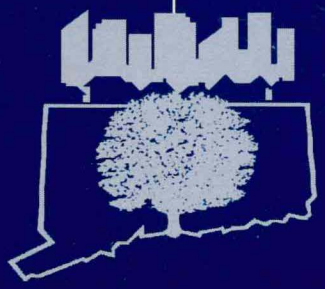

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Dear Reader:

This report serves two distinct purposes. First, it is a valuable synopsis of the early years of urban and community forestry in Connecticut. The accomplishments of the State's urban and community forestry program, established only seven years ago, are a testament both to our effort to address significant natural and human resource needs and to the dedication of committed professionals and volunteers.

Secondly, it is a map for the future in Connecticut. With the groundwork now prepared, the next five years will have a sound foundation of information, models and expertise to build on. Our goals are ambitious but attainable and rely on the ever increasing number of citizen volunteers to assume responsibility for the work that lies ahead. By involving people at all socioeconomic levels, our programs can bring nature back to our communities and simultaneously help re-humanize them.

We look forward to meeting these challenges with you.

Sincerely,

Glenn Dreyer, Chair
Connecticut Urban Forest
Council, Inc.

Donald H. Smith, Jr., State Forester
Connecticut Department of
Environmental Protection
Division of Forestry

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The Connecticut Urban Forest Council

- Statement of Purpose -

The Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Inc., is a state-wide organization composed of people from Connecticut nonprofit organizations, state agencies, universities, research institutions, corporations, professional associations, and citizen tree groups. Its purpose is to advise, assist, educate, and inform urban and community forestry professionals, associated professionals, municipal, state, and corporate leaders and volunteers.

- The Council seeks to -

- Increase the number and quality of urban and community forestry programs in Connecticut towns and cities.
- Provide continuing education and make educational information available to arborists, tree wardens, foresters, community tree volunteers, public works employees and other tree maintenance professionals practicing urban and community forestry in Connecticut.
- Inform community decision makers, legislators, and the general public about the essential benefits derived from urban and community forestry.
- Develop policies designed to promote progressive and appropriate urban and community forestry programs and practices throughout the state.

To this end, the Council will serve to coordinate and direct urban and community forestry efforts in Connecticut.

- The Five-Year Plan -

This five-year plan was developed by the Executive Committee of the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Inc. and was presented to the full Council for review and comments. The full membership accepted the five-year plan in December 1996.

Support for the development of the five-year plan was provided by the USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, through the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Forestry.

URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY

Trees and forests have always been essential to the survival of the human race by providing food, shelter and heat throughout our evolution. Trees and forests also supply us with many other benefits, such as cleaner air, noise control, cooler cities, a more beautiful landscape.

Urban forests and trees are also responsible for less obvious, yet well documented, benefits (Figure 1) (USDA Forest Service 1996).

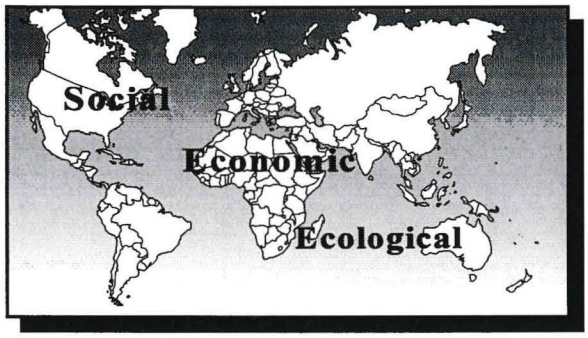


Figure 1. Benefits of urban trees.

Communities which have invested in the care and management of their urban forest have experienced:

- Decreased violent behavior
- Lower energy bills
- Job creation
- Decreased demand on social services
- Increased property values
- Stronger communities with less crime and vandalism
- Better water quality and lower water treatment costs
- Increased commerce
- Restoration of deteriorated areas

The Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Inc. has adopted the following definition of urban and community forestry:

> *Urban and community forestry is the planning for and management of forests and related natural resources in population centers ranging from small communities to large urban areas to ensure long term community and ecological sustainability and enhance the quality of life for all citizens* (USDA Forest Service 1995) .

The urban forest in Connecticut is composed of trees and other natural resources found in:

- Parks
- Town forests
- Street right-of-ways
- Highway, utility and railroad right-of-ways
- Public buildings and grounds, including schools
- "Extra-territorial" lands - greenbelts, landfills, riverways
- Riparian areas
- Private lands -- residential, commercial, industrial

The relationship between urban forestry and quality of life is expressed in Figure 2.

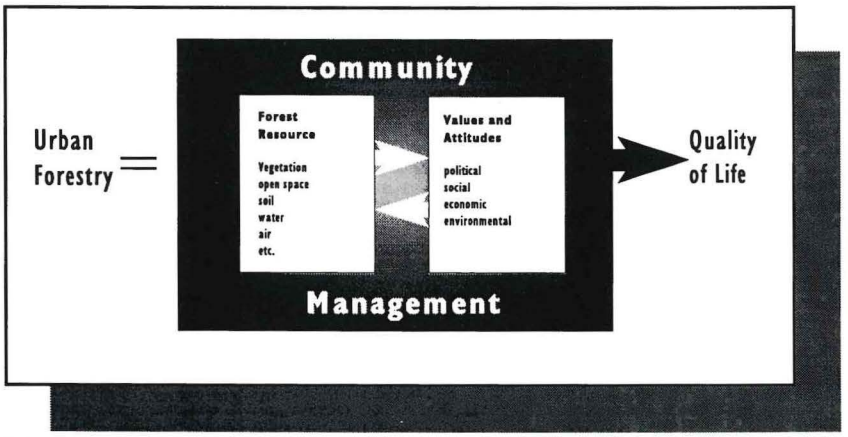
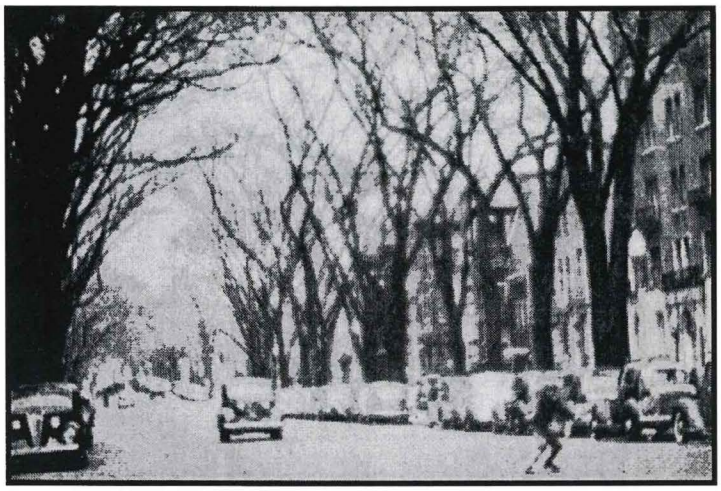


Figure 2. Relationship of urban forestry to quality of life.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

The history of the Connecticut landscape is one dominated by an ever increasing human population. The area that became the State of Connecticut was first occupied an estimated 10,000 years ago by migrants coming from the western part of the continent. Even though the original native Americans burned woodlands, tilled the land, hunted, and discarded wastes, their numbers were never large enough to cause severe degradation of land and water resources.

After the arrival of the first Europeans four centuries ago, human populations remained small, but commerce within and between the early settlements and exportation of goods (i.e., mast trees,



The cathedral like canopy once provided by American elms in New Haven, as elsewhere, may never appear again. But increased investment in urban forestry can help communities recapture the benefits provided by public trees now gone.

lumber, furs, fish) to Europe significantly increased the degradation of natural resources. From the time of the first European settlement until the early 1800s, most Americans lived off the land on subsistence farms. These farmers cut wood for heating and cooking (a single family farm could consume 50 cords of fuelwood annually); sawed boards for homes, barns and fencing; planted fields converted from cleared forests; hunted to supplement the family diet; and traded and bartered as the need arose. The result was the clearing of the original forest from approximately 95% forest cover at the time of European settlement to around 25% by the 1830's. Small towns remained centers for trade and worship. Cities were not much bigger than many small towns.

With the dawning of the industrial revolution, the rate of natural resource degradation, especially the forest for wood, charcoal and boxes, increased significantly. Immigration also increased

tremendously, with people from several countries (especially Irish in the 1840's, Germans, Italians, Polish, French-Canadians, Scandinavians and others until the early 1900's) came in search of better wages in the increasing numbers of mills and factories around Connecticut. Most industries developed in communities strategically situated near a source of water power, a source of waste disposal (again water), and avenues for shipping goods. Here immigrants found jobs, and these communities became Connecticut's most densely populated. They are now large cities (Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport), mid-sized cities (Meriden, Middletown, New London) and smaller, tightly packed villages (i.e., Danielson, Winsted, Terryville, Stafford Springs, Putnam).

Young man with police mentor planting new tree as part of the Youth/Mentor/Tree Program sponsored by Hartford Trees, Inc. and the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System. (Photo by Linda Kehoe)

Between 1750 and 1850, those communities that had grown beyond the "pioneering" stage of development began to consider the need to improve the appearance of town centers through the planting of trees, the grading of roads, the fencing of commons, the establishment of promenades, and new designs of cemeteries (Favretti 1982). Here is the earliest stage in the evolution of what became, in part, urban and community forestry. The towns planted trees and some even developed what might be called street tree management plans. New Haven even passed a law in 1733 that offered a reward (40 shillings) for information that led to the conviction of anyone who caused injury to a public tree (Favretti 1982). The "ornamentation

movement" grew to be quite fashionable with towns mimicking each other's better ideas.

Citizen forestry organizations had their start in the "ornamentation movement." In Hanover, New Hampshire, the Ornamental Tree Planting Society was formed (1843) and the Forest Tree Society (1844) was formed in Keene, New Hampshire. Unfortunately their first project was not successful due to an uproar from area merchants who feared that newly planted street trees would block the line of vision to their shops (Favretti 1982).

Volunteers removing trash, weeding and loosening soil under grates along Main Street, Middletown. (Photo by Jeffrey Campbell)

In the mid to late 1800's the profession of landscape architecture began evolving rapidly. The acknowledged leader of this movement was Connecticut native Frederick Law Olmsted (Hartford). Olmsted, along with Calvin Vaux, is best known as the designer of Central Park. Another important legacy was the creation of a social movement that recognized that the lives of core city dwellers (usually poor immigrants) could be improved by bringing nature into the city. Although landscape architects designed landscapes for wealthy clients throughout the late 19th and early 20th centuries, they also produced the first and some of America's most significant public urban open spaces (e.g., Boston's Emerald Necklace, Boston Common, Central Park, Prospect Park). In Connecticut, notable public projects of this era include the New Haven Green, Bushnell Park, and Keney Park.

Also in the later half of the 19th century, rural forests and abandoned agricultural lands were becoming a concern. For two centuries forests had been stripped of their trees and converted to farmland. Now these farms were being left for more fertile soils in the American mid-west. Uncontrolled forest fires raged on these abandoned lands. Erosion removed the thin surface soils leaving the landscape gullied and rocky.

Private citizens recognized the need for resource conservation during this period. For instance, in 1895 the Connecticut Forestry Association, later named the Connecticut Forest and Park Association (CFPA), was established. While some of the key founding members were professional foresters, most were private citizens concerned with the conservation of open spaces

and shade trees. Many members donated much of the lands that now constitute the Connecticut State parks system and some of the State forests.

In the early 20th century, the Connecticut Tree Protective Association was founded for the purpose of conserving trees and for the promotion of scientific tree care (arboriculture). Another Connecticut native, Gifford Pinchot (Simsbury) worked hard for the creation of professional forestry through the founding of the Society of American Foresters (1900), the Yale School of Forestry (1900), and the U.S. Forest Service (1905). In 1924, the International Society of Arboriculture was founded in Stamford with the support of the Bartlett family. Also during

Glenn Dreyer, Director of the Connecticut College Arboretum and Chair of the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Inc., providing an outdoor class on tree indentification to Meskwaka Tree Project Cooperators. (Photo by Robert M. Ricard)

the early 1900's all of the New England states passed legislation requiring the appointment of municipal tree wardens, with Massachusetts being the first in 1899. This tremendous burst of attention (Milne 1995), coupled with the "village improvement movement" signaled the willingness of both private citizens and public officials to take seriously the planting and care of trees and forests, both rural and urban.

The fact that individual trees were being recognized as important is signaled by the publication of "Trees of Note in Connecticut" by Katharine Matthies. This 1934 publication concerning the state's most historic trees later inspired one of the first projects to be funded by the USDA Forest Service urban and community forestry program in Connecticut. Called the Notable Trees Project, this effort by the Connecticut Botanical Society documented big and historic trees and resulted in a publication (Dreyer 1989). The effort continues today.

THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT'S URBAN FOREST TODAY

Trees and forests in the cities and towns of Connecticut at the beginning of the 20th century were young and vigorous. These same trees and forests, when still present, are now old and are often at the end of their life spans, especially if they are growing in stressful urban conditions. Little attention has been paid to these trees since their youth and middle age. Now in their old age, people often view them with scorn and contempt. They are frequently seen as a nuisance or public hazard and are removed or neglected.

Hazard tree evaluation workshop sponsored by the Tree Wardens' Association of Connecticut, Inc. and led by Dr. David Schroeder, University of Connecticut, Department of Natural Resources Management and Engineering. (Photo by Linda Kehoe)

The present generation has grown up in a forested landscape, and most of us take trees for granted. We assume that our street and park trees will always be there for us and that they will remain healthy without our attention: that someone else will take care of them if they need care at all.

Connecticut's public trees are under siege due to intense population pressures (Ricard 1994). In fact, Connecticut has been fourth in U.S. population density since 1880. There are 642 people per square mile in the State, with extremes ranging from 8,855 people per square mile in Bridgeport to 205 people per square mile in Union (Zarem 1987). Combined with age, neglect, mismanagement and a wide array of adverse environmental conditions, our trees are in an alarming state of decline. Nowhere is this more apparent than in those areas where people and trees are in frequent contact: along highways and country roads, in city parks, along city streets and lots, and in unmanaged rural forests and municipal woodlands.

Several recent studies have documented the level of management of our urban forest resources (Broderick et al. 1988; Ricard 1994a, 1994b, 1996). During the fall of 1987, the newly formed Connecticut Urban Forestry Working Group began to explore the need for developing an integrated urban forestry program for the State. One outcome was the commissioning of a Needs Assessment Survey (Broderick et al. 1988). A statewide stratified telephone and mail survey of 63 communities with populations ranging from 500 to 4,000 people per square mile was conducted. The survey asked public works directors and tree wardens about their tree maintenance, protection and replacement programs, the presence or absence of tree inventory data, the level of municipal funding available for tree programs, and the most critical problems they encountered in managing urban and community forest ecosystems.

Survey results confirmed what many experts had assumed: that in spite of the known benefits of healthy urban (public) trees and forests, in most of the communities surveyed, care of the forest was woefully inadequate. For example, over 60% of the municipalities did not have any tree replacement program at all and "management" was limited to removal of hazardous trees (Broderick et al. 1988).

As a result of this survey information, the Connecticut Urban Forestry Working Group immediately:

- Obtained financial support to develop a model municipal urban forestry project (Middletown).
- Developed tree warden and arborist educational workshops.
- Conducted the first statewide urban forest conference in 1989 (which is now an annual event).
- Convinced both the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Forestry and the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System to hire one full-time urban forester each.

In 1994 a similar survey was conducted to assess the state of urban and community forestry (Ricard 1994). The good news is that:

- The new (1993) Tree Wardens' Association of Connecticut, Inc. conducts training programs for tree wardens and has written a Tree Warden Manual.
- In 60% of Connecticut cities and towns, citizen groups are active in urban and community forestry, up by 230% since 1988.
- Tree planting is exceeding tree removals by 1.42 to 1.
- More technical assistance and educational material and opportunities are now available to Connecticut urban and community forestry professionals, volunteers, and public officials.
- Municipal officials, elected officials, public employees, community volunteers all strongly agree that urban and community forestry is important and that healthy public trees provide essential community benefits.

Most important, and perhaps the source of the greatest hope for the future, the 1994 survey concluded that:

> *The climate of trust and cooperation that exists among natural resource agencies, universities, professional organizations, nonprofit associations, federal agencies and individuals has been the single most important ingredient in achieving high quality urban and community forestry programs in Connecticut. It is essential that this continue into the next century* (Ricard 1994b).

Significant challenges still exist for the state's 169 municipalities:

- Only 88 budget for the care and maintenance of public trees.
- Only 5 have budgets exceeding $100,000 annually for the care and maintenance of public trees.
- 78 budget less than $20,000 per year for the care and maintenance of public trees.
- Few tree wardens have arboricultural, forestry, horticultural, or any other "green" professional skills.
- Only 32 have tree inventories (up from 8 in 1988).
- Only 18 municipalities have shade tree commissions, up from 15 since 1988.
- Only 18 have a community forestry ordinance, up from 15 since 1988.
- A study conducted by students from the Yale University Environmental Law Clinic found current Connecticut state law to be antiquated in light of current advances in urban forestry.

Unnessary damage to trees continues as illustrated here. Trenching next to large trees and the subsequent cutting of roots will cause the death of many public trees if education does not reach those people most in need of training. (Photo by Robert M. Ricard)

Much has been accomplished, but clearly, much work remains.

URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

The first five year plan, 1991 to 1995, set goals and objectives for Connecticut's urban and community forestry program. Specific tasks for the State Urban Forestry Coordinator, Volunteer Coordinator, Connecticut Urban Forest Council (the Council) and Environmental Education Program were established and prioritized. An independent review was conducted and a progress report was prepared by Tish Carr, Urban Forester for Connwood Foresters in 1994, and presented to the Council in May, 1994. Most, but certainly not all, of the goals and objectives of the first five year plan have been met or exceeded. Several major accomplishments are outlined below. Detailed accomplishments are presented in Appendix A.

Major Accomplishments

- 144,450 seedlings and 8,000 large trees planted
- Tree Wardens' Association of Connecticut, Inc. founded and incorporated
- 5 annual urban forestry conferences held with over 1,000 attendees
- Meskwaka Tree Project trained and supported 105 volunteers from 18 different communities.
- Over $1.4 million in grants to communities matched by 1.57 million in services and cash.
- Over a dozen citizen tree boards established.
- Twenty-three municipalities conducted urban forest resource inventories.

CONNECTICUT URBAN FORESTRY BY THE YEAR 2000

The achievements of the past five years have resulted in increased benefits for Connecticut citizens. However, there is much left to do. Based on this need the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Inc. and its partners have developed the following set of goals and objectives. Specific tasks associated with these goals and objectives are listed in Appendix B.

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1 Public Awareness and Education

Create a responsible public and responsive government by promoting an understanding of stewardship, and the social, economic, and environmental values of trees, forests, and related natural resources in cities and communities.

Objective 1.1 Promote communication between interested constituencies.

Objective 1.2 Conduct interdisciplinary training of volunteers, municipal officials, and professionals that deal with urban and community forestry.

Objective 1.3 Distribute educational and technical information to partners and the public.

Objective 1.4 Facilitate programming in conservation education through existing state networks to increase the general awareness level, with emphasis on school children, K-12.

MESKWAKA
TREE PROJECT

Goal 2 Outreach and Environmental Equity

Expand program participation by involving minorities, people of color, American Indian Nations, people with disabilities, and under-served populations in all aspects of urban and community forestry.

Objective 2.1 Include diverse populations in decision-making, program design and delivery.

Member of the Urban Forestry Crew in Bridgeport removing burlap and rope that was incorrectly left on the tree during planting. (Photo by Robert M. Ricard)

Objective 2.2 Encourage minority and disadvantaged youth to pursue careers in forestry and related natural resources.

Objective 2.3 Encourage greater minority and under-served population participation in program implementation and on the state urban forestry council.

Goal 3 Partnerships

Create and maintain partnerships that strengthen cooperative working relationships and integrate diverse activities among public and private agencies and organizations at federal, state, and local levels.

Objective 3.1 Enhance and strengthen existing federal, regional, state and local partnerships, both traditional and non-traditional.

Objective 3.2 Increase partnerships with non-traditional groups that improve linkages to community organizations, and planning and policy-making bodies.

Objective 3.3 Expand inter-agency cooperation among governmental agencies.

Objective 3.4 Encourage multi-jurisdictional cooperation in developing urban forest resource management strategies.

Objective 3.5 Promote financially independent urban and community forestry programs at state and local levels.

Objective 3.6 Continue to promote and maintain integration of volunteer programs into state annual program activities.

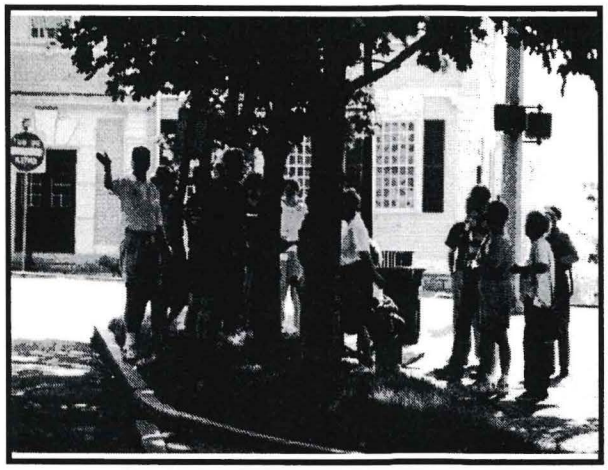
Objective 3.7 Standardize monitoring, evaluation and accomplishment reporting procedures at the federal, state and local level.

Goal 4 Comprehensive Natural Resource Management

Implement an ecological approach which integrates biophysical, social and economic considerations to support healthy, sustainable communities.

Objective 4.1 Develop a needs assessment that involves prospective partners and various private citizens to address urban forest management.

Objective 4.2 Incorporate traditional urban and community forestry concepts, arboricultural practices and management strategies as an integral component of ecologically-based management.



An educational session conducted along city streets of New London. (Photo by Robert M. Ricard)

Objective 4.3 Incorporate non-traditional disciplines (i.e., sociology, social marketing, communication) as an integral component of ecological-based management.

Objective 4.4 Incorporate wildlife management concepts and techniques as an integral component of urban forest resource management.

Objective 4.5 Develop new and/or revise appropriate state and local legislation pertinent to urban and community forestry needs.

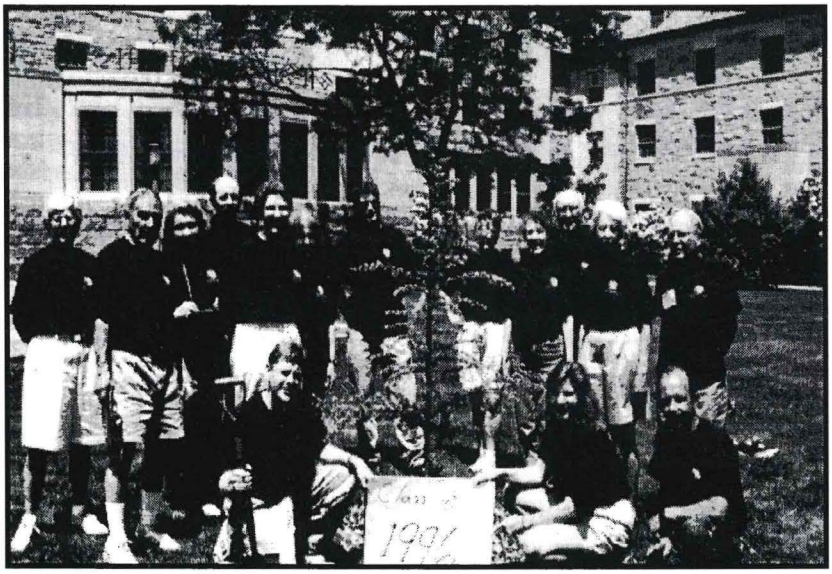
Objective 4.6 Periodically assess the urban forestry needs of communities, volunteers, professionals and organizations.

Goal 5 Urban and Community Forestry Research

Implement an ecological approach which integrates biophysical, social and economic considerations to support healthy, sustainable communities.

Objective 5.1 Develop new and support existing research related to the needs of urban and community forestry efforts in Connecticut.

Objective 5.2 Cooperate with and use the findings of research institutions outside of the state who conduct urban and community forestry research.



Members of the Meskwaka Tree Project graduating Class of 1996 celebrate the conclusion of the weekend long training program held at Connecticut College, New London, with the traditional tree planting event. (Photo by Robert M. Ricard)

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APPENDIX A
DETAILED ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM THE FIRST FIVE-YEAR PLAN (1991-1995)

Goal 1 *To expand urban and community forestry programs offered by the Connecticut Division of Forestry and the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System and develop new programs which will provide up-to-date urban and community forestry information to volunteers and municipal officials in a timely fashion.*

Results

- An urban forestry grants program was established by the Division of Forestry in 1991. Urban and community forestry training is offered by both municipalities and nonprofit organizations through these grants.
- Meskwaka Tree Project established in 1992 by State Urban Forestry Volunteer Coordinator, an Educator with the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System, in cooperation with the Connecticut College Arboretum.
- Tree Warden workshops established in 1991. Tree Wardens incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 1993.
- The Council held the first "Trees on Main Street" conference in 1989. Conference became the main avenue for information transfer. Eighth consecutive conference held in 1996.
- Youth/Mentor/Trees Project established by State Urban Forestry Volunteer Coordinator in 1993.
- "Trees on Main Street" video produced and distributed by University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System and Connecticut Division of Forestry in 1991. Video documented the process used by the City of Middletown to establish a model urban and community forestry program.
- Research into the use of geographical information systems, cartography, and remote sensing for urban forest ecosystem management in Connecticut began at the University of Connecticut, Laboratory for Earth Resources and Remote Sensing begun in 1995 and ongoing.

Goal 2 *To increase the number of citizen volunteer organizations and increase their effectiveness in working with municipal governments, and to facilitate a statewide network of urban and community forestry volunteers for the purpose of sharing information.*

Results

- Approximately 105 urban and community forestry volunteers from 18 communities have been trained in the Meskwaka Tree Project. The Project begins with a three day training program to increase basic knowledge in urban and community forestry dealing with municipal governments, fund raising and other program development needs. Meskwaka Cooperators continue to receive support after this initial weekend training event for at least one year and often longer.
- Youth/Mentor/Tree Project was established in four communities to increase participation in tree care by at-risk youth and to increase tree survival rates in core cities.
- The State Urban Forestry Coordinator and Volunteer Coordinator have been directly involved in the creation of at least a dozen citizen urban and community forestry boards, including Middletown, Stamford, Ridgefield, Bridgeport, Essex, and New Canaan.
- One Meskwaka graduate established the Connecticut ReLeaf Program within the Connecticut Forest and Park Association to advance urban and community forestry education and to create a network of urban and community forestry volunteers throughout the state, principally through the annual Connecticut ReLeaf Tree Festival begun in 1994.
- A newsletter is distributed to Meskwaka Tree Project cooperators, other volunteers, Tree Wardens and others as often as possible.

Goal 3 *To provide increased technical assistance to various groups and communities to improve their tree care programs.*

Results

- State Urban Forestry Volunteer Coordinator developed 13 urban and community forestry fact sheets published by the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System.
- State Urban Forestry Coordinator has conducted shade tree inventory classes in 10 communities.
- Connecticut Division of Forestry Service Foresters provide on site evaluation of tree planting projects for municipalities and nonprofit organizations.
- Urban Forestry Assistance Grants have been utilized to train municipal workers in proper tree care and to educate the general public as to the benefits of trees.

Goal 4 *To train Connecticut's municipal Tree Wardens and organize/establish a Tree Wardens' organization.*

Results

- State-wide Tree Wardens needs assessment survey was conducted, analyzed, published and distributed by the State Urban Forestry Volunteer Coordinator (1992).

- Training and education have been offered to Tree Wardens by the Council and the State Urban Forestry Volunteer Coordinator since 1991.
- The State Urban Forestry Volunteer Coordinator established the Tree Wardens Association of Connecticut, Inc. and incorporated it as a 501(c)(3) organization in 1993. Approximately half of the 169 tree wardens joined the association in the first year with about 40 renewing annually.
- Tree Wardens hold an annual meeting each winter and at least one educational training session each year.
- The State Urban Forestry Volunteer Coordinator serves as *ex-officio* member of Tree Wardens Association of Connecticut, Inc.

Goal 5 *To increase the number of Tree City USA's.*

Public education is critical to the Connecticut urban forestry program. Equally important is having fun at the same time as accomplishing critical tasks. (Photo by Robert M. Ricard)

Results

- Number of Tree City USA's has increased from three in 1990 to six today: Hartford, Middletown, Fairfield, Groton, Stamford and Danbury.
- Five different communities, Hartford, Middletown, Fairfield, Stamford and Danbury, have received Tree City USA Growth Awards.

Goal 6 *To provide plant material (trees) to communities on a cost share basis.*

Results

- Since 1991, $426,000 in Urban Forestry Assistance Grant funds have been distributed to Connecticut communities for tree planting and other urban and community forestry projects. These federal funds have been matched by over $573,000 in in-kind services, tree maintenance and cash.
- Ninety-nine grants have been awarded to municipalities and 51 grants have been awarded to nonprofit organizations, including The Natural Guard, Hartford Trees, and the Stamford Tree Foundation.
- 144,450 seedlings and 2,906 balled and burlaped trees have been planted in Connecticut since 1991 with Federal and State aid.
- In the four years of the Small Business Administration's tree planting program, Connecticut received $980,000, matched by over $1,000,000 in in-kind services and cash.
- The Small Business Administration funds purchased 5,442 B&B trees which were purchased from and planted by small businesses. 89 individual projects were funded.

Goal 7 *To provide communities with the physical materials they need to conduct inventories and prepare long term management plans.*

Results

- In 1990, the City of Middletown received a Focus Funding grant of $25,000 to implement a model urban and community forestry program. A 100% inventory of municipally owned trees was undertaken; a 10 year management plan was written, a tree ordinance was developed; and the Urban Forestry Advisory Board was officially deemed a Commission in 1991.
- Since 1991, 32 communities have undertaken full or partial inventories of their urban forest resources, utilizing Urban Forestry Assistance Grants awarded by the Connecticut Division of Forestry.
- Four communities, Avon, Bloomfield, Suffield and Monroe, have had resource management plans prepared for their park lands with urban and community forestry grants.
- Three communities, Middletown, Fairfield and Norwalk have utilized urban and community forestry grants to prepare master plans for their historic homestead sites.
- Urban and community forestry grants have been utilized in several ways. Some communities have purchased the equipment (diameter tapes, Biltmore sticks, etc.) necessary to complete an inventory themselves, while others have hired urban forestry professionals to inventory their urban and community forestry resources. Some have utilized grants to purchase computers and software to prepare urban and community forestry management plans.

Goal 8 *To educate urban and community forestry organizations in developing diversified sources of funds and stimulate/facilitate corporate and public/private funding partnerships.*

Results

- Meskwaka Tree Project training included a session on fund raising and public/private funding.
- In 1991, Waldbaum's Food Mart granted Connecticut $20,000 which was used to purchase 410 trees in 41 communities.
- Since 1992, Northeast Utilities has awarded approximately $75,000 per year to communities to plant small or flowering trees under utility lines.

Big trees and little children; two cornerstones to increased appreciation of Connecticut's urban forest. (Photo by Robert M. Ricard)

- United Illuminating purchased the University of Connecticut's "Trees" tree selection software program and Penn State's Street Tree Fact Sheets and distributed them to local libraries in the companies area of operations to help educate the public about planting the right tree in the right place.

Goal 9 *To provide the Connecticut Urban Forest Council with the means to present nationally known urban and community forestry experts at its annual conference.*

Results

- Since 1989, eight conferences have been held. Over 1,000 people have attended these Council events.
- From 1992 to 1994, the Council hosted a National Urban Forestry Council meeting, chaired by Don Willeke, Chairman of NUFC.
- Nationally known speakers have presented at the Council's annual conference including: Victor Merullo, an expert on Trees and the Law; Cindy Zimar of the National Tree Trust; Nancy Wolf, Trees New York; Wayne Zipperer and Bob Neville of the U.S. Forest Service; Rudy Favretti, Historical Landscape Architect; Phillip Rodbell of American Forests; and Drs. Nina Bassuk and Phil Craul, Cornell University.
- In addition to the NUFC meetings, the Council has hosted three New England/New York Regional Urban Forest Council meetings.

Other Results

- The Council has provided grants for the creation of a computerized tree selection program specifically for Connecticut, a homeowner brochure entitled "Tree Trouble? Hire an Arborist," and the reprinting of a publication entitled "Backyard Wildlife Habitat."
- The State Urban Forestry Coordinator was on the Arrangements Committee and the Urban Forestry Volunteer Coordinator was on the Program and Arrangements Committee for the National Urban Forest Conference held in New York City, New York, in 1995.
- The Council provided 12 scholarships to the 1995 National Urban Forest Conference, and had a display in the Exhibit Hall. A total of 22 Connecticut residents attended the conference.
- Printed the 1994 Connecticut Urban and Community Forestry Survey Results (64 pp.) conducted by the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System and distributed them to chief elected officials, Tree Wardens, state legislators, the media and Connecticut congressmen.
- In 1993, American Forests and the National Urban Forest Council presented Robert M. Ricard, State Urban Forestry Volunteer Coordinator and Extension Educator for the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System, with the 1993 Professional Urban Forester Award.
- Connecticut ReLeaf has hosted tree festivals in Hartford, Bridgeport and Fairfield. Over 1,500 children and 2,500 adults have participated in these urban forestry programs.
- In 1993, the State Urban Forestry Volunteer Coordinator published a booklet entitled "By Means of Trees" which has been distributed nationwide.

- Also in 1993, the Council incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit.
- In 1994, the City of Bridgeport received a $35,000 Focus Funding grant to establish a Youth at Risk program. 20 teenaged inner city children received training in urban tree care. Kevin Charles, a student at Southern University, was the program leader. The teens spent two summers caring for the trees in the Downtown Special Services District of Bridgeport.
- In 1995, The Tree Wardens hosted a two day Hazard Tree Identification workshop attended by over 50 Tree Wardens and other urban forest professionals.

Somos parte de la solicion. We're part of the solution. The slogan of the Youth/Mentor/Trees Project.

- Utilizing an Urban Forestry Assistance Grant from the Connecticut Division of Forestry, the Connecticut Tree Protective Association, in cooperation with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, developed a "Calendar" for dealing with tree insects and diseases. The calendar was distributed to arborists throughout Connecticut.

APPENDIX B
SPECIFIC TASKS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE YEAR 2000

Task number	Tasks (Description and purpose)	Principal party(ies) responsible	Goals and/or Objective(s) met
1	Continue the Urban Forestry Small Grants Program	DEP	Potentially all objectives
2	Continue to support the annual state urban forest conference	CUFC and all partners	Goal 1
3	Continue to support and conduct the Meskwaka Tree Project	UCONN CES, CCA	Goal 1
4	Continue to support the Tree Wardens' Association of Connecticut, Inc. as they develop workshops and educational material.	UCONN CES	Goal 1
5	Continue to promote the Youth/Mentors/Trees Project	UCONN CES	Goals 2 and 3
6	Continue to provide technical assistance to communities and citizen organizations	DEP	Goals 1 and 2
7	Review the management, operations and administrative procedures of the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Inc.	CUFC, USFS, DEP	Objectives 3.1, 3.7, 4.6
8	Expand the Connecticut Notable Tree Program	CCA, CUFC, CBS	Objectives 1.3, 1.4, 4.2
9	Assist the Project Learning Tree urban program	DEP, CFPA	Goals 1 and 2
10	Continue interstate cooperation and collaboration, especially with New England states and New York	CUFC, UCONN CES, DEP, USFS	Objective 3.1
11	Continue to maintain state database of urban forestry volunteers and community organizations	UCONN CES	Objectives 3.6, 3.7
12	Develop and disseminate educational materials (videos, publications, etc.)	UCONN CES, CUFC	Objectives 1.3, 1.4

13	Seek to increase private funding for urban forestry efforts	CUFC, CFPA	Objectives 3.2, 3.5
14	Seek to diversify membership of the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Inc.	CUFC	Goal 2
15	Pursue the development of a Hartford Urban Resource Partnership	DEP, UCONN CES, USFS	Goal 2 and 3
16	Increase the number of Tree City USA's	DEP	Goal 3
17	Develop urban forestry World Wide Web site	UCONN CES	Objectives 1.1, 1.3, 1.4
18	Create and expand neighborhood parks	DEP, UCONN CES, KNOX PARK FOUNDATION	Goal 2
19	Expand geographical information systems and remote sensing capabilities	NRME, UCONN CES	Goal 1
20	Review existing state public shade tree laws and recommend revisions, where necessary	UCONN CES, YALE	Objective 4.5
21	Continue youth education through Arbor Day poster contests and awards	UI, CTPA, DEP	Objective 1.4
22	Continue the promotion of urban tree planting by young people through the annual Arbor Day seedling program	DEP	Objective 1.4, Goal 2
23	Continue to educate young people about urban ecosystems through annual essay and poster contests	UI, CTPA, DEP	Objectives 1.4, 4.2, Goal 2
24	Continue the utility community tree planting program and/or revise program as need determines	NU	Objectives 3.1, 3.4, 3.5
25	Continue to maintain and develop new effective partnerships any interested and affected parties	ALL	Goals 2 and 3
26	Conduct 5-year state-wide needs assessment survey of Tree Wardens	UCONN CES	Objective 4.1
27	Conduct 5-year state-wide urban forestry needs assessment survey of communities, volunteers, professionals and organizations	UCONN CES	Objective 4.1

28	Obtain and/or develop and disseminate urban wildlife educational information	DEP	Objective 4.4
29	Provide training in urban wildlife ecology	DEP	Objective 4.4
30	Continue to provide educational information to communities, Tree Wardens, legislators and citizen volunteers and organizations	UCONN CES	Objective 1.3
31	Continue to provide workshops for licensed arborists	CTPA, CAES	Objectives 1.2 and 1.3
32	Continue to provide training for people who wish to apply for the arborist license	BA, CTPA	Objectives 1.2 and 1.3
33	Continue to develop and conduct workshops and educational materials for Tree Wardens	TWA, UCONN CES	Objectives 1.2, 1.3, 3.1, 3.3
34	Continue to promote and conduct community tree planting and maintenance events by Garden Clubs in all communities and support state urban forestry efforts	FGC	Objectives 3.1, 3.5, 3.6
35	Increase the number of community volunteers	UCONN CES, FGA, CFPA	Objectives 3.2 and 3.6
36	Advocate support for urban and community forestry by state and federal legislators in Connecticut	CFPA, FGA	Objectives 3.1 and 3.3
37	Annual review of goals and objectives to determine what has been completed and what, if anything, needs to be added or revised	CUFC, DEP, UCONN CES	Objective 4.6
38	Increase news coverage of urban and community forestry issues and events	ALL	Objectives 1.1 and 1.3
39	Write manuals for volunteers and professionals on communications and meeting management	UCONN CES	Objective 4.3
40	Maintain contact with national organizations involved in urban forestry	UCONN CES, DEP	Objective 3.1

41	Continue to recognize and reward outstanding achievements by volunteers, communities and professionals through the annual awards process	CUFC	Objectives 3.2 and 3.6
42	Increase the amount of and encourage others to conduct urban forestry, and related disciplines, research in state	CUFC, UCONN CES, YALE, CAES, CCA, BA	Goal 5
43	Continue to plant neighborhood trees and work with at-risk youth to accomplish this	TNG, DEP, UCONN CES, KPF, TNG, YALE	Goal 2
44	Continue to develop urban gardens	KPF, DEP, UCONN CES, YALE	Goal 2
45	Develop a comprehensive Connecticut urban forestry manual	UCONN CES	Goal 1 and 4
46	Provide training to municipal public works maintainers as requested by their directors	UCONN CES, DEP	Objectives 1.2 and 1.3
47	Assist towns conduct street tree inventories	DEP	Objective 1.2

Key of partner organizations

- BA - Bartlett Arboretum, University of Connecticut
- CAES - Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
- CBS - Connecticut Botanical Society
- CCA - Connecticut College Arboretum
- CFPA - Connecticut Forest and Park Association.
- CTPA - Connecticut Tree Protective Association
- CUFC - Connecticut Urban Forest Council
- DEP - Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
- FGA - Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut
- KPF - Knox Parks Foundation
- NRME - University of Connecticut Department of Natural Resources Management and Engineering
- NU - Northeast Utilities
- TNG - The Natural Guard
- TWA - Tree Wardens' Association of Connecticut
- UCONN CES - University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System
- UI - United Illuminating
- USFS - U.S. Forest Service
- YALE - Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

APPENDIX C
MEMBERS OF THE
CONNECTICUT URBAN FOREST COUNCIL, INC.

Officers

Glenn D. Dreyer, *Chair*
Director, Connecticut College Arboretum

Joseph R. Ryzewski, *Vice-Chair*
Manager-Line Clearance and
Special Programs, United Illuminating

John E. Hibbard, *Treasurer*
Executive Director, Connecticut Forest and
Park Association

Linda K. Kehoe, *Secretary*
Program Director, Hartford Trees, Inc.

Members

John Alexopoulos, Professor of Landscape
Architecture, Department of Plant Science,
University of Connecticut

Bruce Bennett, Tree Warden,
Town of Kent

Fred Borman III, Urban Forester
Connecticut Department of Environmental
Protection, Division of Forestry

Stephen H. Broderick, Extension Forester,
University of Connecticut Cooperative
Extension System

David A. Goodson, Utility Systems Forester,
Northeast Utilities

Ellen Schmidt Grady, Executive Director,
Southern New England Forest Consortium

Jack Hale, Executive Director,
Knox Park Foundation

Sharon Ossenbruggen, Urban Forester,
USDA Forest Service, State and Private
Forestry

Peter Picone, Urban Wildlife Biologist,
Connecticut Department of Environmental
Protection, Division of Wildlife

Robert M. Ricard, Urban and Community
Forester, University of Connecticut
Cooperative Extension System

Dr. David Schroeder, Chair,
Department of Natural Resources
Management and Engineering,
University of Connecticut

Bruce Spaman, Forester and Arborist,
Forest Management Services

Dr. George Stephens, Chair,
Department of Horticulture and Forestry
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

James J. Stotler, Landscape Designer III
Connecticut Department of Transportation

John Williams, Arborist
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